



**Parks and Recreation Department Board  
Minutes**

**August 27, 2002  
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, August 27, 2002 at the Parks and Recreation Department, 200 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas.

**Board Members Present:** Rosemary Castleberry, Pablo Valdez, Amy Babich, Linda Guerrero, Jeff Francell, Mary Ruth Holder and Jeb Boyt

**Board Members Absent:** Clint Small

**City Staff Present:** Jesus M. Olivares, Stuart Strong, Randy Scott, Kimberley Jamail, Maria Ciccirelli, Martha Peters, Megan Weiler, Valerie Bennett and Dina Haines

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6.39 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

**B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Board Member Holder made the motion to approve the June 25, 2002 minutes as written. Board Member Babich seconded the motion. The vote was in favor 4-0-1. Francell abstained.

Board Member Francell made the motion to approve the August 13, 2002 minutes as written. Board Member Babich seconded the motion. The vote was in favor 4-0-1. Holder abstained.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Erika Gonzales, Elizabeth Rinco, Lesilie Serrano, and Librado Almanza**, spoke to the board on a recent survey taken at various recreation centers. These youth are interns with PODER, People Organized in Defense of Earth and her Resources based in East Austin. Ms. Gonzales described recommendations as a result of the survey that she would like the Parks and Recreation Department to consider implementing at the recreation centers. Ms. Rincon informed the board of their visit to six recreation centers and six teen academy sites. Ms. Rincon informed the board of her findings concerning the children's programming activities at these centers. Ms. Serrano displayed a graph of the ethnicity and ages of the participants. Ms. Serrano stated the favorite activities among those surveyed were soccer and volleyball. Mr. Almanza addressed recommendations they would like to see at recreation centers.

These recommendations included more youth scholarships, hiring of more female staff, coed sports so girls can participate along with boys and the Teen Academy Program to be offered at Johnson High School and Martin Jr. High School.

**Susana Almanza**, Director of Poder introduced the youth and informed the board about the internship program and that this year the program had chosen to survey the youth programs offered at several recreation centers.

**Olga Ruedas, Griselda Rodriquez and Bea Lucio** all spoke in support of item number 1, the naming of the Montopolis Ballfields.

**D. PRESENTATION**

**Martha Peters**, Art in Public Places Administrator, and **Mel Ziegler**, from the Arts Commission gave a presentation on the Art in Public Places Program. The Art in Public Place Panel and the Austin Arts Commission are requesting City Council to revise the AIPP Ordinance. Mr. Zeigler and Ms. Peters presented a resolution to the board and Mr. Zeigler asked for the board support for the resolution. The recommendations contained in the resolution are:

- a) Remove the cap of \$200,000 on AIPP allocations for a single construction project.
- b) Increase the allocation for AIPP from one percent to two percent.
- c) Require CIP infrastructure projects to participate in the AIPP Program
- d) Revise all references to "Art in Public Coordinator" to reflect a new position title, "Art in Public Places Administrator."

**E. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

3. Make a Recommendation to City Council Regarding the AIPP Ordinance Revision Resolution. *Chair Castleberry brought item # 3 to the front of actions.*

**Board Member Francell** asked that this item be referred to the **Land and Facilities** subcommittee to obtain more information about specific projects that included AIPP funding and to compare Austin to other major cities in terms of the cap and percentage for AIPP projects. This item was referred to the **Land and Facilities**, September 3. This item will be brought back to the **Parks Board** at its next meeting.

1. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Naming of Ballfields Located in the Montopolis Sports Complex.

**Olga Ruedas, Griselda Rodriquez and Bea Lucio** all spoke in support of the naming of the fields as follows.

- |                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. R&L (Ruedas & Lucio)  | 4. Dolores (Dolores Church)       |
| 2. R&M (Reyna & Medrano) | 5. Fiesta Austin (Senior's Field) |

**3. Triple R (Rodriguez, Rosales and Rodriquez)**

**Board Member Boyt** made the motion to support the naming of the fields as stated. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The motion passed 7-0-0 in favor.**

2. Make a Recommendation to Director Regarding Relocating the Susanna Dickinson House to an alternate site from 10<sup>th</sup> and Congress (Old Bakery).

Jesus Olivares informed the board that Palm Park is located in the flood plain and would not be a suitable site due to the fact the house would have to be elevated 15 to 18 feet high off the ground. The second location discussed was Brush Square. Board Member Holder informed the board that this item had been before Land and Facilities Sub-Committee.

**Board Member Holder** made the motion to the Director to look at alternative sites with staff and to keep the stakeholders informed and to provide feed back as well from the stakeholders. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 7-0-0.**

**F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Olivares informed the board of the Budget Public Hearings. Mr. Olivares also updated the board on PARD current budget. He distributed the PARD budget to all members as it was presented to City Council and City Manager.

**G. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee

Mark Lord had presented the S.M.A.R.T. Program to the Programs Committee. This program offers parents training of children participating in youth sports. This training promotes fun, fair play, safety and respect for others. Cost of this program is \$5.00 per family.

Land and Facilities Committee

None. Land and Facilities did not meet.

Navigation Committee

None. Navigation did not meet.

**H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Holder informed the board she had attended the Friends of Deep Eddy Fundraiser and that this group of citizens have so far raised over \$15,000 to be

applied towards renovation of the historic bathhouse. They are also seeking a grant from the Austin Parks Foundation for the renovation.

- I. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:31 p.m.